

PERSIAN Chart for Classical Civilizations

ERA: 600 B.C.E. – 600 C.E.	Greece
<u>POLITICAL</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders/groups • Forms of government • Empires • State building/expansion • Political structures • Courts/laws • Nationalism/nations • Revolts/revolutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenced by the peoples of the island Crete and the city-state Mycenae • No centralized government; concept of polis (city-state), or a fortified site that formed the centers of many city states • Governing styles varied (Sparta a military state, Athens eventually a democracy for adult males) • Creation of strong city-states with own government, typically a tyranny or aristocracy led by a aristocratic council. • Sparta and Athens two leading city-states • Both Athens and Sparta developed strong military organizations and established colonies around the Mediterranean. <p>Athens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athens government first dominated by tyrants, or strong rulers who gained power from military prowess; later came to be ruled by an assembly of free men who made political decisions. • Democracy under Pericles in Athens, major decisions were made by general assemblies in which only citizens would participate. • Only a minority of people were citizens in Athens. <p>Sparta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Militaristic state over a large slave population (helots) • Aristocracy • Sparta theoretically equal; wealth accumulation not allowed <p>Hellenistic Empire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the Peloponnesian Wars, Alexander the Great from Macedonia conquered Greece and created an empire that stretched from Greece to India contributing to the spread of Greek culture.
<u>ECONOMIC</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural, pastoral • Economic systems • Labor systems/ organizations • Industrialization • Technology/industry • Capital/money • Business organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade • Great seafaring skills, centered around the Aegean Sea, but traveled around the entire Mediterranean • Most were farmers but soil was unfertile, so the production of olive oil and wine increased. • Most commercial activity required seafaring abilities to trade with Palestine, Egypt, and Carthage exchanging wine and olive products for grains. • During the Hellenistic era, caravan trade flourished from Persia to the West, and sea lanes were widely traveled through the Med, Persian Gulf, and Arabian Sea, causing a cosmopolitan culture.
<u>RELIGIOUS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belief systems/ teachings • Philosophy • Holy books • Conversion • Key figures • Deities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polytheism, with gods having very human characteristics and emotions • Gods and goddesses regulated and interfered with human life. • Celebration of human individual achievement and the ideal human form • Philosophy and science emphasized the use of logic and reason in thinking; Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were the main philosophers

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<p><u>SOCIAL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family/ kinship • Gender roles/relations • Social and economic classes • Racial/ ethnic factors • Entertainment • Lifestyles • “Haves” & “have nots” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, a patriarchal society with fairly strict social divisions. • Slavery widely practiced in Classical Greece; allowed citizens time for art, architecture, drama, debate, etc... <p>Sparta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men separated from women in military barracks until age 30; women had relative freedom. • Women in Sparta were encouraged to be physically fit so as to have healthy babies; generally better treated and more equal to men than women in Athens. <p>Athens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athens encouraged equality for free males, but women and slaves had little freedom. Neither group was allowed to participate in polis (city-state) affairs. • Valued education, placed emphasis on importance of human effort, human ability to shape future events • Social status dependent on land holdings and cultural sophistication
<p><u>INTERACTIONS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War/conflict • Diplomacy/treaties • Alliances • Exchanges between individuals, groups, & empires/nations • Trade/commerce • Globalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to land being so tight, Greece was always looking to establish colonies abroad to ease overcrowding and gain new raw materials. • Persian Wars led to the uniting of the Greek city states against the Persian Empire (largest empire east of the Mediterranean at the time); Greeks win the war • Delian League was established under the leadership of Pericles after the Persian wars as an alliance against aggression from its common enemies; members paid a tribute that was oversaw by Athens. • Peloponnesian War (Sparta vs. Athens, Sparta wins the Golden Age of Greece comes to an end • Alexander the Great and the spread of Hellenism (Greek, Persian, Egyptian, and Indian cultural blend/diffusion); death resulted in the split of the Hellenistic Empire into three parts: Antigonid (Greece and Macedon), Ptolemaic (Egypt), and the Seleucid (Bactria and Anatolia).
<p><u>ARTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art / Music • Writing/ Literature • Philosophy • Math / Science • Education • Architecture • Technology/ Innovations • Transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golden Age of Greece led by Pericles following the Persian Wars • Written language deriving from the Phoenician alphabet (encountered when Greeks visited Phoenician city-states around the Mediterranean) • Olympic games • Highly developed form of art, including sculptures, architecture (Parthenon and columns), literature (Homer’s <i>The Illiad</i> and <i>The Odyssey</i>) and drama, math (Euclid and Pythagoras), and medicine (Hippocrates and the Hippocratic Oath) • Important advances in shipbuilding and navigation • Engineering accomplishments of Archimedes (lever & pulley)
<p><u>ENVIRONMENTAL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location • Physical • Human/environment • Migration/movement • Region • Demography • Neighborhood • Settlement patterns • Disease • Urbanization/ cities (2 major) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cities relatively small and independent due to the geographic isolation caused by the mountains and seas • Mild climate for growing seasons and promoting outdoor events • Athens, Sparta, Alexandria (under Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic empire) are key cities.